

Title (en)

VENDING MACHINE SUBSCRIPTION METHOD AND APPARATUS

Title (de)

VERKAUFSMASCHINENABONNEMENTSVERFAHREN UND GERÄT

Title (fr)

TECHNIQUE ET DISPOSITIF PERMETTANT DE S'ABONNER A UN DISTRIBUTEUR AUTOMATIQUE

Publication

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Application

EP 98956557 A 19981104

Priority

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- US 96660897 A 19971110

Abstract (en)

[origin: US6085888A] The present invention relates to a method and apparatus for registering a subscription to purchase a plurality of items dispensed by a vending machine. According to a second aspect of the present invention, a method and apparatus are disclosed for dispensing an item by a vending machine in response to a request to redeem at least a portion of a registered subscription. According to a third aspect of the present invention, a method and apparatus are disclosed for dispensing an item by a vending machine based on an estimated availability determined through an analysis of stored subscription data

IPC 1-7

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IPC 8 full level

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CPC (source: EP US)

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Citation (search report)

- [A] US 4778983 A 19881018 - USHIKUBO KOHEI [JP]
- [A] EP 0135631 A1 19850403 - VERTX CORP [US]
- [A] WO 9612254 A1 19960425 - MEKATRONIKK A S [NO], et al
- See references of WO 9924902A1

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DOCDB simple family (publication)

US 6085888 A 20000711; AU 1305599 A 19990531; CA 2302753 A1 19990520; CA 2302753 C 20030408; EP 1029265 A1 20000823; EP 1029265 A4 20051221; JP 2003526822 A 20030909; JP 2005100444 A 20050414; JP 3848533 B2 20061122; US 5988346 A 19991123; US 6298972 B1 20011009; WO 9924902 A1 19990520

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US 35326999 A 19990714; AU 1305599 A 19981104; CA 2302753 A 19981104; EP 98956557 A 19981104; JP 2000519832 A 19981104; JP 2004317992 A 20041101; US 54559600 A 20000407; US 96660897 A 19971110; US 9823464 W 19981104